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BOROUGH OF CHRISTCHURCH



ANNUAL REPORT

on the

Health of the Borough

for the year

1968

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HEALTH OF THE BOROUGH

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by

D.J.N. McNab, V.R.D., M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.
Medical Officer of Health

and

CLEMENT WILLARD, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.
Chief Public Health Inspector and Cleansing
Superintendent

HEALTH COMMITTEE, 1968

Councillor R. Affleck (Chairman, January - December)
The Worshipful the Mayor Councillor W.A. Bridge (January - May)
The Worshipful the Mayor Alderman Mrs. D. Baker (June - December)
Alderman K.L. Smith (January - December)
Councillor Miss C. Sharp (January - May)
Councillor Mrs. I.A. Stevenson (January - April)
Councillor M. Lynk (January - December)
Councillor T. Staniforth (January - December)
Councillor W.C.F. Horsford (January - December)
Councillor J. Beauchamp (January - December)
Councillor W.F.S. Freestone (January - December)
Councillor A.R. Payne (May to December)
Councillor K.W.L. Gibbs (May to December)

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Medical Officer of Health:

D.J.N. McNAB, V.R.D., M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Also Medical Officer of Health of the Rural District of Ringwood
and Fordingbridge and Borough of Lymington and an Assistant
County Medical Officer for the County of Hampshire.

Address: Druitt Buildings, Christchurch
Telephone No: Christchurch 4321.

Chief Public Health Inspector and Cleansing Superintendent:

CLEMENT WILLARD, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

Additional Public Health Inspectors:

A.F. Saunders, Cert. S.I.B.
D.J. Cartridge, Cert. S.I.B.
R.F. Blinkhorn, M.A.P.H.I.

BOROUGH OF CHRISTCHURCH

R E P O R T

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR

1968

TO THE MAYOR, ALDERMEN AND COUNCILLORS
OF THE BOROUGH OF CHRISTCHURCH

I submit for your information and consideration my twenty-second Annual Report on the health and sanitary circumstances of your Borough.

As an integral part of this Report there follows the Report of the Chief Public Health Inspector on those sections of the work of the Health Department with which he is specially concerned.

NATURAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS:

The ancient Borough of Christchurch lies on the Hampshire coast in the south-west corner of the County and at the confluence of the rivers Avon and Stour. It is built on a subsoil which is predominantly of sand and gravel except at its eastern end where the Barton clays prevail. Protected to the west by raised ground and enclosing the vast tidal basin of Christchurch Harbour it enjoys an equable climate. Its favoured situation, its sailing and fishing facilities and the nearby New Forest make it an attractive place to live in, and to which to retire. As a result, the population has risen steadily since the war until it has now reached 31, 140, an increase of 60% in the past 20 years almost entirely by immigration.

The aircraft industry still provides a substantial part of the employment in the area, but there are two large Government Research and Development Establishments and a wide variety of other industries.

RAINFALL FOR 1968: (at Sewage Disposal Works, Stony Lane)

		<u>Ins.</u>			<u>Ins.</u>
January...	...	2.44	July	...	2.11
February..	...	1.94	August	...	1.45
March	....	0.79	September...	...	4.15
April	....	2.37	October	...	4.41
May	...	2.35	November	...	1.21
June	...	3.51	December	...	3.24

TOTAL 29.97 inches.

GENERAL STATISTICS:

Area: 4,807 acres (Census 1961)

Population: Registrar-General's estimate for mid-year 1968: 31,140.

Number of inhabited houses: 11,598.

Rateable value: 31.3.68: £1,777,169.

Sum represented by a penny rate: £7,082. 11s. 5d.

VITAL STATISTICS FOR 1968: (as supplied by the Registrar-General)

	<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Borough of</u> <u>Christchurch</u>	<u>England and</u> <u>Wales</u>
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LIVE BIRTHS:

Total	390	203	187
Legitimate	353	182	171
Illegitimate	37	21	16

LIVE BIRTH RATE (Comparability factor 1.39)

per 1,000 population ...	...	12.5	16.9
after application of comparability factor		17.4	

	<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Borough of</u> <u>Christchurch</u>	<u>England and</u> <u>Wales</u>
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ILLEGITIMATE LIVE BIRTHS:

per cent of total live births ...	9.5
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STILL BIRTHS:

Total...	...	2	-	2
Legitimate	2	-	2
Illegitimate..	...	-	-	-

STILL BIRTH RATE:

per 1,000 total (live & still) births	5.1	14.0
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TOTAL LIVE AND STILL BIRTHS: 392

INFANT DEATHS:

Deaths under one year of age

Total...	...	9	6	3
Legitimate ...	...	9	6	3
Illegitimate..	...	-	-	-

Deaths under 4 weeks of age

Total...	...	6	4	2
Legitimate ...	...	6	4	2
Illegitimate..	...	-	-	-

Deaths under one week of age

Total...	...	6	4	2
Legitimate ...	...	6	4	2
Illegitimate..	...	-	-	-

INFANT MORTALITY RATE:

per 1,000 live births - Total	23.0	18.0
per 1,000 live births - Legitimate	25.5	
per 1,000 live births - Illegitimate	Nil	

	<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Borough of Christchurch</u>	<u>England and Wales</u>
<u>NEONATAL MORTALITY RATE:</u>					
<u>Deaths under 4 weeks</u>					
per 1,000 live births				15.4	12.3
<u>EARLY NEONATAL MORTALITY RATE:</u>					
<u>Deaths under one week</u>					
per 1,000 live births				15.4	10.5
<u>PERINATAL MORTALITY RATE:</u>					
<u>Stillbirths and deaths under one week combined</u>					
per 1,000 total (live & still) births				20.4	25.0
<u>MATERNAL DEATHS:</u> (Including abortion)				Nil	
<u>MATERNAL MORTALITY RATE:</u>					
per 1,000 total (live & still) births				Nil	0.24
<u>DEATHS:</u>	495	229	266		
<u>DEATH RATE:</u> (Comparability factor 0.63)					
per 1,000 population				15.9	11.9
after application of comparability factor				10.0	
<u>SPECIAL CAUSES:</u>					
<u>Death rate per 1,000 population</u>					
Tuberculosis				0.03	0.04
Cancer (lung and bronchus)				0.55	0.59
Cancer (all causes)				2.83	2.32

<u>CAUSES OF DEATH:</u>					<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
B4 Enteritis and Other Diarrhoeal Diseases	...				-	1
B5 Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	...				1	-
B 19(1) Malignant Neoplasm - Stomach	...				3	2
B 19(2) Malignant Neoplasm, - Lung, Bronchus	...				16	1
B 19(3) Malignant Neoplasm - Breast	...				-	6
B 19(4) Malignant Neoplasm - Uterus	...				-	3
B 19(5) Leukaemia...	...	...	...	...	3	-
B 19(6) Other Malignant Neoplasms, etc...	...				25	29
B 21 Diabetes Mellitus	...	...	...	...	-	3
B 46(1) Other Endocrine etc. Diseases	...				1	-
B 23 Anaemias	...	...	...	...	2	-
B 46 (3) Mental Disorders..	...	...	...	...	-	1
B 46 (4) Other Diseases of Nervous System, etc.					5	-
B 26 Chronic Rheumatic Heart Disease	...	...			2	2
B 27 Hypertensive Disease..	...	...	...	...	2	5
B 28 Ischaemic Heart Disease	...	....	...	...	65	57
B 29 Other Forms of Heart Disease.	...	...			6	24
B 30 Cerebrovascular Disease	...	...	...	...	26	53
B 46(5) Other Diseases of Circulatory System...					10	19
B 31 Influenza	...	...	...	...	5	4
B 32 Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	21	27
B 33 (1) Bronchitis and Emphysema	...	...			12	8
B 46 (6) Other Diseases of Respiratory System..					1	5
B 34 Peptic Ulcer...	...	...	...	...	4	2
B 36 Intestinal Obstruction and Hernia...	...				1	1
B 46(7) Other Diseases of Digestive System	...				3	2
B 38 Nephritis and Nephrosis	...	...	...	...	-	1
B 39 Hyperplasia of Prostate	...	...	...	...	1	-
B 46(8) Other Diseases, Genito-Urinary System..					-	2
B 42 Congenital Anomalies..	...	...	...	...	2	1
B 43 Birth Injury, Difficult Labour, etc.	...				1	2
B 44 Other Causes of Perinatal Mortality.	...				2	-
B 45 Symptoms and ill-defined conditions.	...				-	2
BE 47 Motor Vehicle Accidents	...	...	...	...	2	2
BE 48 All other accidents..	...	...	...	...	4	-
BE 49 Suicide and Self-inflicted injuries	...				1	1
BE 50 All other External Causes...	...	...	...	...	2	-
					<u>229</u>	<u>266</u>

The Registrar-General has adopted a new abridged classification of Causes of Death in accordance with a recent revision of the International Classification of Diseases. Exact comparability with similar categories in the previous cause list cannot be assumed.

COMPARATIVE VITAL STATISTICS:

(Since the District was formed in 1932)

Year	Population	Borough of Christchurch			England and Wales		
		I.M.R.	B.R.	D.R.	I.M.R.	B.R.	D.R.
1932	11,250	62.5	17.0	11.3	65	15.3	12.0
1937	13,540	45.0	14.8	12.5	58	14.9	12.4
1942	15,200	30.0	17.5	13.3	49	15.8	11.6
1947	18,180	30.0	19.7	12.8	41	20.5	12.0
1952	21,290	21.9	14.9	11.0	27.6	15.3	11.3
1957	23,790	9.0	14.0	12.9	23.0	16.1	11.5
1962	26,640	11.9	12.6	15.1	21.4	18.0	11.9
1964	28,000	7.8	13.6	13.5	20.0	18.4	11.3
1965	28,630	18.5	13.2	14.5	19.0	18.1	11.5
1966	29,610	10.9	12.4	15.5	19.0	17.7	11.7
1967	30,270	24.1	12.3	15.7	18.3	17.2	11.2
1968	31,140	23.0	12.5	15.9	18.0	16.9	11.9

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE:

Disease	Number notified
Measles...	45
Whooping Cough ...	6
Pneumonia. ...	2
Scarlet Fever ...	1
Dysentery. ...	4
Puerperal Pyrexia..	1
Infective Jaundice.	3

TUBERCULOSIS:

		<u>Pulmonary</u>		<u>Non-Pulmonary</u>		<u>Total</u>
		<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>	
No. on Register at 31.12.68	...	167	118	17	21	323
No. of new notifications	...	6	10	-	-	16
Transfers from other areas	...	-	-	-	-	-
Deaths...	...	1	-	-	-	1

LUNG CANCER:

17 deaths resulted from lung cancer, one less than the previous year, but raising the total in the past ten years to 176, the vast majority of whom need not have died but for the ubiquitous cigarette. Of the year's deaths, six were under the age of 65, two indeed under the age of 45.

The national death rate continues to rise inexorably. 28,826 deaths occurred in 1968, of whom 4,930 were women. This is a smaller increase than the previous year and one would like to think that the anti-smoking campaign was at last making some impact, but of this there is no real evidence. However, the general rate of increase in lung cancer deaths has somewhat decreased in the past five years when the total increase has been 13.6%. Over the same period the increase in male lung cancer deaths has been 11% but female deaths rose by 26.5%, which is a sober reflection on the vast increase in cigarette smoking among women since the war.

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA:

1. Laboratory Facilities.

The Borough is served by a constituent laboratory of the Public Health Laboratory Service, sited for many years at Boscombe but presently transferring to new premises at the new Poole General Hospital. It remains under the direction of Dr. G.J.G. King. We are constantly indebted to the Director and his staff for their invaluable advice..

The following list of specimens from the area, examined at the Laboratory during the year, has been kindly supplied by the Director.

Faeces and Urine	15
Ice Cream	153
Water	115
Food	2
Other Sanitary	74
Milk	59
Nose and throat	6
Bloods	5
	<hr/> 429

2. Hospitals.

Christchurch Hospital - acute and chronic.

The majority of patients from the Borough requiring hospital treatment go to the Royal Victoria Hospital, Bournemouth.

Cases of infectious disease are treated at the new infectious diseases unit at Poole General Hospital.

3. Tuberculosis.

The Chest Clinic is held at Christchurch Hospital where the Chest Physician, Dr. A.T. Hendry, holds a joint appointment with the Regional Hospital Board and the County Council. A Health Visitor is also in attendance.

SERVICES PROVIDED BY THE COUNTY COUNCIL:

1. Ambulance Service

The area Ambulance Service is provided from a main station at Lymington with sub-stations at Christchurch and Ringwood. All ambulances are fitted with wireless and are controlled from a central control at Winchester, to which all requests for ambulance services must be directed.

The Central Ambulance Control,
Queens Road,
Winchester.

Tel: Winchester 61644

Emergency 999 calls are routed direct to central control.

2. Nursing Services.

Details of Nurses and their areas:-

<u>District served</u>	<u>Name and address</u>	<u>Service</u>
Attached to Drs. Kay, Pearce and Elphick, Dr. Eldon, Dr. McLeish, and unattached G.P.'s other than Bournemouth.	Miss K. Ella, 13, Edward Road, Christchurch. Tel:Christchurch 2225.	DISTRICT NURSE
Attached to Drs. Bolton and Cantlie, Dr. Oddie and Bournemouth G.P.'s.	Mrs. A.E. Gutheridge, 36, Walcott Avenue, Christchurch. Tel:Christchurch 4729	DISTRICT NURSE
Christchurch	Mrs. E.G. Sprackland, 12, Carisbrooke Way, Highcliffe, Christchurch. Tel:Highcliffe 2433	GENERAL RELIEF

<u>District served</u>	<u>Name and address</u>	<u>Service</u>
Attached to Drs. Wyatt, Carr and Scott-Jupp.	Mrs. Q. Boothby, 46, Hunt Road, Christchurch. Tel:Christchurch 5091	DISTRICT NURSE/ MIDWIFE
Attached to Drs. Falkner Lee, Brooks and Harcourt Webster General work for Dr. Barnett.	Mrs. I. Sherwood, 2, Bracken Way, Highcliffe, Christchurch. Tel:Highcliffe 3282	DISTRICT NURSE/ MIDWIFE
Attached to Drs. Deane, Druitt and Lawrence.	Miss E. Mitchell, 25, Stanpit, Christchurch. Tel:Christchurch 6204	DISTRICT NURSE/ MIDWIFE
Work for all G.P.'s Christchurch, Highcliffe, Somerford, except attached G.P.'s.	Miss M. Ellwood, 2, Felton Crescent, Highcliffe, Christchurch. Tel:Highcliffe 3426	DISTRICT MIDWIFE
Attached to Drs. Falkner Lee, Brooks and Harcourt Webster.	Miss I.K. Webb, 280, Lymington Road, Highcliffe, Christchurch. Tel:Highcliffe 2061	DISTRICT NURSE/ MIDWIFE AND HEALTH VISITOR
Attached to Drs. Carr, Wyatt and Scott-Jupp and Bournemouth G.P.'s.	Miss D. Hayes, 61, Baring Road, Southbourne, Bournemouth. Tel:Bournemouth 47334	HEALTH VISITOR
Attached to Drs. Deane, Druitt and Lawrence, Dr. Eldon, Dr. Oddie.	Miss E.M. Gibbs, 4, Sandy Lane, Christchurch. Tel:Christchurch 2015	HEALTH VISITOR
Attached to Drs. Kay, Pearce and Elphick and Dr. Barnett	Miss K. Sheldon, 97, The Grove, Christchurch. Tel:Christchurch 6260	HEALTH VISITOR

<u>District served</u>	<u>Name and address</u>	<u>Service</u>
Attached to Drs. Bolton & Cantlie, Dr. McLeish and unattached G.P.'s other than Bournemouth.	Mrs. E. Stone, 17, Springfield Avenue, Christchurch. Tel: Christchurch 3269	HEALTH VISITOR
Christchurch (Relief)	Mrs. M. Monk, 12, South Avenue, New Milton. Tel: New Milton 2116	P/T HEALTH VISITOR

3. Home Help Service.

Divisional Organiser, Mrs. M. Bowler, 12 Empress Road, Lyndhurst. Tel: Lyndhurst 2762.

4. Child Health Clinics.

<u>Clinic</u>	<u>Place</u>	<u>Time</u>
Christchurch	County Council Health Clinic Millhams Street	Every Tuesday 10 a.m. and 2 p.m.
Somerford	Social Centre Southey Road	Every Wednesday at 2.30 p.m.
Highcliffe	St. Mark's New Church Hall	Third Friday in month at 2.30 p.m. (From 1.9.69 First Friday)

5. School Health Service.

School medical inspections are carried out periodically by Assistant County Medical Officers and Health Visitors.

Dental and special clinics are held at the Millhams Street Health Clinic.

6. Immunisation against Diphtheria, Whooping Cough, Tetanus and Poliomyelitis

Treatment is carried out by family doctors and at Child Health Clinics and Schools. Records are at present maintained by your Medical Officer of Health on behalf of the County Medical Officer, but will eventually be transferred to the County computer.

There has been some reduction in the number of primary vaccinations possibly due in part to a new immunisation pattern recommended by the Ministry of Health in August 1968. This increased the intervals between doses.

Type of Vaccine	Year of Birth					Others under 16	Total
	1968	1967	1966	1965	1964-61		
<u>DIPHTHERIA- WHOOPING COUGH & TETANUS</u>							
Primary	82	163	25	4	12	3	289
Re-inforcing	-	36	112	25	96	19	288
<u>DIPHTHERIA-TETANUS</u>							
Primary	-	-	4	1	28	3	36
Re-inforcing	-	3	7	10	280	313	604
<u>DIPHTHERIA ONLY</u>							
Primary	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Re-inforcing	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
<u>POLIOMYELITIS</u>							
Primary	35	188	18	4	39	7	291
Re-inforcing	-	4	15	8	400	40	467

7. Measles Vaccination.

In the early part of the year the Ministry of Health accepted a recommendation of the Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation that Measles Vaccination with a live attenuated vaccine should be made available for children up to age 15.

In the first place supplies of vaccine were limited and were reserved for children between the ages of 4 and 7 and for children at Day Nurseries and Nursery Schools from aged one. Later, as supplies increased, the whole age range was covered.

Vaccination sessions were arranged in schools and day nurseries and in addition family doctors treated children at their surgeries. A good response was obtained and at the time of writing it is apparent that vaccination has already had a considerable effect on the epidemiological patterns of the disease. In what should have been a "Measles year" the expected outbreak has not occurred locally and nationally measles notifications have reached no more than one-fifth of the expected numbers.

1968	1967	1966	1965	1964-61	Under 16	Total
10	75	62	60	235	8	450

8. Smallpox Vaccination.

Treatment is principally carried out by family doctors but is also available at Child Health Clinics.

Records for children up to the age of 16 are maintained by your Medical Officer of Health on behalf of the County Medical Officer. Vaccination is free but family doctors normally charge for any certificate required.

Age	Months				Years			Total
	0-3	3-6	6-9	9-12	1 year	2-4	5-15	
Primary Vaccinations	-	-	1	8	187	39	13	248
Re-Vaccinations	-	-	-	-	-	8	66	74

SCHOOLS:

This is a time of change in the educational field with increasing numbers of secondary school pupils taking certificate courses and proceeding to further education. The general atmosphere in these schools is manifestly different from only a few years ago.

The Grammar School extensions have been completed and the school will eventually become comprehensive.

The open air swimming pools at Twynham and Somerford Secondary Schools and at Christchurch and Highcliffe Junior Schools are in full use for these and neighbouring schools.

WATER:

Christchurch is supplied with water by the West Hampshire Water Company whose works are situated within the Borough. The Company, in addition, supplies part of Bournemouth, the whole of the Rural District of Ringwood and Fordingbridge, part of the New Forest Rural District and part of the Borough of Lymington. Partially treated water in bulk is also pumped to the oil refinery at Fawley.

The raw water is drawn from the River Avon at Christchurch and treated by slow sand filtration and super chlorination. In addition the Company has a source of supply from deep boreholes in the chalk at Hale Park, some 16 miles north of Christchurch near the Wiltshire border. This supply serves Ringwood and Fordingbridge Rural District and also supplements the supply in Christchurch.

Raw and treated waters are examined daily at the Company's own water testing laboratory which is in charge of a qualified chemist and bacteriologist. In addition, periodic independent samples are sent to an outside laboratory.

The supply of water to the consumer is constant, of moderate hardness, free from plumbo solvent action, and entirely free from metals.

The Company's records show 11,440 separately assessed domestic dwellings to be supplied from their mains in Christchurch. No standpipes are in use.

A typical result of an examination of the treated water is shown below:-

THE COUNTIES PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORIES

ANALYSIS OF A SAMPLE OF WATER received 28.5.68

from WEST HAMPSHIRE WATER COMPANY

Chemical results in parts per million

Appearance:	Clear and bright.		
Turbidity(A.P.H.A. units)	Nil.		
Colour (Hazen):	6.	Odour:	Nil.
pH:	8.0.	Free Carbon Dioxide:	4.
Electric Conductivity:	430.	Dissolved Solids dried at 180°C:	395
Reciprocal Megohms per cm.			
Chlorine present as Chloride:	16.	Alkalinity as Calcium Carbonate:	190.
Hardness: Total:	225	Carbonate:	190.
		Non-carbonate:	35.
Nitrate Nitrogen:	3.9	Nitrite Nitrogen:	Less than 0.01.
Ammoniacal Nitrogen :	0.02.	Oxygen Absorbed:	0.70.
Albuminoid Nitrogen:	0.03.	Residual Chlorine:	absent

Iron, Zinc, Copper, Lead and Fluoride: absent.

Bacteriological Results.

	(1 day at 37°C:	2 days at 37°C:	3 days at 20-22°C:
Number of colonies(
developing on Agar(	0 per ml	0 per ml	1 per ml

	<u>Present in</u>	<u>Absent from</u>	<u>Most probable number</u>
Presumptive Coliform reaction:	- ml	100 ml	0 per 100 ml
Bact. Coli (type 1):	- ml	100 ml	0 per 100 ml
Cl. welchii reaction:	100 ml	10 ml	

This sample is clear and bright in appearance, has a reaction on the alkaline side of neutrality and is free from metals. The water is moderately hard in character and contains no excess of mineral or saline constituents in solution. It is of a high standard of organic quality and bacterial purity.

These results indicate a water which is pure and wholesome in character and suitable for drinking and domestic uses.

SEWERAGE:

In the early part of the year the situation at the Sewage Works was unchanged and they remained overloaded. However, from late summer onwards parts of the new extensions were progressively completed and were brought into use so that from September the situation at the Works steadily improved. By the end of the year all the extensions were virtually complete and were brought fully into use in the next four to six weeks.

Liquid sludge continues to be removed by tanker for distribution on neighbouring farm land but difficulties have arisen owing to the reluctance of farmers to accept loaded vehicles on sodden land in times of heavy rainfall. Enquiries are being made towards the purchase of irrigation equipment for use in these conditions.

Consideration is being given to the automation of the Whitehall main pumping station.

Loan sanction was obtained for the Mudeford Scheme and a tender was recommended for acceptance in December. It is anticipated that work will commence in Spring 1969 and will take 18 months to complete.

FOOD AND FOOD PREMISES:

Routine supervision of food premises has continued. Standards, in general, remain satisfactory.

HOUSING:

384 private houses were built during the year as compared with 362 in 1967. In addition 28 dwellings were constructed for old people by private enterprise. Council construction consisted of 16 units of accommodation.

The following details relating to housing accommodation and the current waiting list have been kindly supplied by the Housing Officer - Mrs. M. Clark.

Families housed in Council accommodation : 50.

There were 351 applicants on the housing list, made up as follows:-

No. in Family (Parents and Children)	Number of Applicants	Number of Bedrooms Required	Total for each type of accommodation
1	20)	1	121
2	101)		
3	118)	2	136
* 4	18)		
Ø 4	34)	3	56
5	22)		
6	5)	4	8
7	3)		
TOTALS	321	-	321

* 2 children of same sex. Ø 2 children of opposite sex

Applications from Revvo Castor Co: 2

Applicants for Old People's Dwellings

Strete Mount	12
Gordon Mount	6
Rutland and Sydney Roads	10

Applicants on General List

<u>1964</u>	<u>1965</u>	<u>1966</u>	<u>1967</u>	<u>1968</u>
316	292	283	325	351

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948: SECTION 47:

One old woman was considered for action under this section and remains under observation. Some small improvement was effected by the removal of large accumulations of rubbish but reversion to the original state can be expected.

GENERAL REMARKS:

The health of the Borough was satisfactory throughout the year.

The incidence of infectious disease was low. The small number of cases of Measles was a carry-over from the major outbreak of 1967. Few cases occurred after the introduction of Measles Vaccination in the summer.

The estimated mid-year population increased by 870 to 31,140. Deaths exceeded births by 105 which would indicate that immigration into the area increased to 975.

The birth rate increased slightly over last year's record low figure. After making allowance for the age and sex distribution of the population the rate compares favourably with the national figure.

The infant mortality rate showed little change.

The death rate rose for the fifth successive year and is well above the national average. However when again adjustment is made for the constitution of the population it is below the national figure. 52.7% of deaths were inhabitants over the age of 75.

Steady progress is being made with improvements to the sewerage system.

My sincere thanks are due to colleagues in other departments for their advice and assistance, and above all to the staff of the Public Health Department for their loyal co-operation at all times.

D.J.N. McMB

June, 1969.

Medical Officer of Health

BOROUGH OF CHRISTCHURCH

R E P O R T

OF THE

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

AND

CLEANSING SUPERINTENDENT

FOR THE YEAR

1 9 6 8.

TO THE MAYOR, ALDERMEN AND COUNCILLORS
OF THE BOROUGH OF CHRISTCHURCH.

I have pleasure in presenting to you my fourth Annual Report covering the work of the Department during the year ending 31st December, 1968.

The Department has continued to work in a satisfactory manner. During the year Miss N. Garle, Junior Clerk resigned and was replaced by Miss C. Bouldstridge. Mr. Saunders, who has been acting as my Deputy since my appointment in 1965, retired in May, 1969 and he has been replaced by Mr. M. Storey, previously Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector at Kempston, Bedfordshire.

Mr. Saunders has been employed as a Public Health Inspector with this Council for the past 23 years and, as by its very nature most of the work of a Public Health Inspector remains unseen and unsung, I am quite sure that the full extent of his work will not generally be realised but I am confident that over the years he has given good value to the Council.

HOUSING

This part of our works involves the inspection of houses to ascertain if they are fit for human habitation. If they are not, then action is taken to ensure that the necessary repairs are carried out, and in the event of a house not being repairable at a reasonable cost the procedure laid down in the Housing Act is followed to arrange for its demolition.

The Borough of Christchurch is fortunate in that the number of old houses to which the provisions of the Act relate are small in number, nevertheless, inspections are carried out throughout the year and during 1968 21 houses have been repaired and 8 demolished.

INSPECTION OF FOOD PREMISES

Regular routine inspections of all food premises are carried out and many of them improved as a result. The number of complaints from the public of unsound food were less during the year and it was not found necessary to resort to prosecutions.

FOOD INSPECTION

Food of all descriptions is inspected at the request of any trader in the area. If any shopkeeper has any doubts about the fitness of any food he has simply to contact the Department. The food will be inspected and he will be advised accordingly. Should the food prove to be unsound it is taken away to be buried in the refuse tip under the supervision of the Inspector.

The following is a list of food condemned during the year.

Meat	2cwts. 1qr. 6lbs.
Cooked Meat and Meat	
Products	10lbs.
Mixed tins, Meat, fruit,.....	
fish and vegetables,, ..	1,329 tins.
Other foods	103 jars.
	15 cartons.
	132 packets.
	23 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs.
	8 stone.
Packets Frozen Foods due to	
breakdown in refrigeration	1,128 packets.

SAMPLING

The sampling of food and drugs for adulteration is the responsibility of the County Council. Their Chief Inspector, Mr. J.S. Preston, performs these duties, and I am indebted to him for his latest report of samples taken during the year ended 31st March, 1968.

"During the year ended 31st March, 1969, 54 samples were procured under the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, within the Borough of Christchurch.

Milk Samples

13 samples of milk were obtained and all were found to be satisfactory.

Miscellaneous Samples

41 samples of articles other than milk were obtained, one being the subject of an adverse report. This was a sample of Brandy which was taken from a cask at an off licence shop. It was found to contain 5% excess water but a further sample

from a similar but unopened cask on the premises was of the requisite standard for the declared "70 degrees Proof". It appears that the deficiency in proof spirit was caused by natural loss as the result of the cask being opened some months beforehand. It was not considered that the matter warranted legal proceedings but the facts were brought to the notice of the vendor concerned.

General

In addition to the samples taken under the Food and Drugs Act, the usual attention was given to the labels and descriptions of food and drugs under the provisions of the Labelling of Food Order and the Pharmacy and Medicines Act. There were no serious complaints concerning these matters."

MILK SUPPLY

There was a further increase in the number of persons retailing milk and the number of dealers licensed to sell the new Ultra Heat Treated Milk has more than doubled.

All milk retailed in the Borough is bottled at establishments outside the district.

The following list shows the number of dairies and persons registered as distributors, and the number of and types of licences in force:-

Number of distributors of milk	87
Number of dairies on register	3
Dealers licensed to use the designation	
Untreated Milk	10
Dealers licensed to use the designation	
Pasteurised Milk	74
Dealers licensed to use the designation	
Sterilised Milk	29
Dealers licensed to use the designation	
Ultra Heat Treated Milk	7

ICE CREAM

The Department has continued to obtain regular samples of ice cream and I am pleased to report that these were of a very high standard. Grades 1 and 2 are considered to be good.

153 samples were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory, the results being as follows:-

Grade 1.	119
Grade 2.	25
Grade 3.	4
Grade 4.	5

DRAINAGE

All new drainage work is carefully supervised and tested by your Inspectors on receipt of notification from the builders, and existing drains are dealt with on complaint.

The number of properties not drained to sewers, and the facilities available are:-

Draining to Septic Tanks	100
Draining to Cesspools	43
Bucket Latrines	15
Draining Others	2

MOVEABLE DWELLINGS AND CAMPING SITES

This part of their work has received more attention this year and this Department is doing everything it possibly can to maintain a satisfactory standard and to secure improvements where necessary.

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

Regular inspections have been carried out on all premises coming within the scope of this Act, and progress has been made in obtaining compliance with outstanding notices. Once again the number of premises have increased but there has been a further reduction in the total number of employees.

The premises registered at the end of the year were as follows:-

Offices	101
Retail Shops	254
Wholesale Shops, Warehouses	4
Catering Establishments	45
Fuel Storage Depots	2

Class of Workplace and the number of persons employed:-

Offices	475
Retail Shops	857
Wholesale Departments, Warehouses ,,,	35
Catering Establishments	300
Fuel Storage Depots	6

A total of 1,673, of which 977 are females.

SWIMMING POOLS

Regular samples were taken of all swimming pools within the area and steps taken where necessary to ensure that they were at all times safe for bathing purposes. 48 samples were taken during the year.

Paddling Pools were also sampled and this enables us to ensure that they were kept up to a satisfactory standard. 39 samples were taken.

PUBLIC CLEANSING

(a) Refuse Collection

A satisfactory refuse collection service has continued throughout the year. The problem of attracting and retaining suitable and sufficient men to carry out this important service is one which has to be grappled with every day and takes up quite a lot of time.

Special Collections are still being arranged at the request of Occupiers for which a reasonable charge is made.

(b) Refuse Disposal

Refuse is being disposed of at a reasonably low cost by controlled tipping on the land at Stanpit Marsh. This method of disposal is being frowned on but in this particular area it has given no cause for complaint. The conversion of this soggy morass of mud and weed into a large area of valuable land must, in the long term, be of great benefit to the Town and reflects credit on the Officers and Councillors who were far sighted enough to approve the scheme in the first place. The available tipping space in this area is coming to an end and some consideration has been given to future Refuse Disposal arrangements. Some time ago a Study Group was set up to go into the question of Refuse Disposal in South-East Dorset, Bournemouth and South West Hampshire, and an interim Study Report has been presented to the Council. A Working Party has been set up (of which I am a member) to further consider the problem.

(c) Transport

Once again we have experienced difficulty with our vehicles. The making do of old and obsolete vehicles has plagued this Department since the days of the horse and cart and until there is a change of policy we can only endeavour to make the best use of the equipment available.

SALVAGE

Income from salvage for the fiscal year was £4,629. This is once again an all time record.

There being no restrictions on the sale of waste paper we are expecting to further improve on this figure.

PEST CONTROL

Constant attention is required to ensure proper control of rodents and other pests.

Total number of premises infested and
treated during the year 645
Total number of visits during the year 2491

FACTORIES

All the factories in the area have continued to receive attention in order to ensure a satisfactory standard of hygiene, particularly in relation to sanitary conveniences and canteens.

GENERAL

Many other duties are carried out by the Department, such as investigation of smell, noise, smoke and fly nuisances, which all add to the work carried out by your Public Health Department

I should like to take this opportunity to express my sincere thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee, the Medical Officer of Health, fellow officials in all Departments, and members of the staff of the Public Health Department for their loyal support and co-operation.

CLEMENT WILLARD

Chief Public Health Inspector
and Cleansing Superintendent

Stour Cottage,
20 Barrack Road,
Christchurch,
Hants.

July, 1969

T A B L E 1.

SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS

Public Health Acts.

Housing inspections.....	48
Housing revists.....	260
Animal Keeping.....	32
Accumulations and deposits.....	180
Smell nuisances.....	96
Clean Air act.....	15
Noise Abatement Act.....	41
Infectious diseases.....	5
Disinfection.....	5
Filthy and verminous premises/articles.....	54
Disinfestation.....	4
Caravans (individual).....	75
Camps.....	108
Water supply.....	16
Drainage.....	1854
Soil vents, plumbing.....	283
Septic Tanks, cesspools.....	98
Closet Accommodation.....	22
Public conveniences.....	42
Dustbins.....	199
Refuse collection.....	211
Refuse disposal.....	549
Salvage.....	561
Schools.....	4
Swimming Baths.....	108
Ponds, ditches, streams.....	8
Agricultural premises.....	1
Other complaints.....	10
Rag Flock Act.....	1
Scrap Metal Dealers.....	1
Oil Heaters.....	8
Paddling Pool.....	24

Housing

Acts.

Housing inspections.....	9
Housing revisits.....	80
Overcrowding.....	3
Houses in multiple occupation.....	1

Factories

Act

Factories with power.....	111
Factories without power.....	1
Outworkers.....	55

T A B L E 1
(continued.)

<u>Pests</u>	
<u>Act</u>	
Rats and Mice.....	2311
Other Pests.....	288
<u>Food and</u>	
<u>Drugs Act</u>	
Catering.....	147
Bakehouses.....	13
Food factories.....	1
School Canteens.....	13
Bakers shops.....	3
Butchers shops.....	32
Grocers shops.....	114
Greengrocers and fruiterers.....	17
Fishmongers.....	12
Fish-friers.....	36
Ice-cream.....	103
Sweet shops.....	45
Milk shops, dairies.....	36
Licensed premises.....	59
Food vehicles.....	31
Food poisoning	2
Food inspections.....	59
Food complaints.....	57
Sampling.....	396
<u>Offices, Shops and</u>	
<u>Railway premises Act.</u>	
General Inspections.....	217
Revisits,,,,,.....	93
Accident investigations,.....	3
<u>Shops Acts</u>	
Shops premises.....	225
Pet Animals Act.....	9
<u>Miscellaneous</u>	
Unclassified visits.....	115
Interviews.....	22
Committees.....	23

T A B L E 2

The following statement shows in detail work carried out under the supervision of the Department.

(a) Drainage and Sanitary Fittings

New Buildings drained.....	204
Premises re-drained.....	7
Repairs/alterations to existing drains.....	52
Length in yards drains laid.....	16,548 $\frac{2}{3}$ yds.
Manholes provided.....	661
Intercepting traps provided.....	6
New gulley traps provided.....	571
Soil and Vent pipes provided.....	178
Water tests applied.....	480
Smoke tests applied.....	214
Air tests applied.....	275
Colour tests applied.....	11
Drainage defects remedied.....	2
Septic tanks and cesspools constructed.....	3
Septic tanks and cesspools abolished.....	5
Septic tanks and cesspools drainage connected to sewer.....	14
New W.C. pedestals provided.....	243
Flushing cisterns provided.....	243
Baths provided.....	208
Wash-hand basins provided.....	254
Sinks provided.....	192
Trapped waste pipes provided.....	630
Urinals provided.....	1
Shower-baths provided.....	1
Choked drains cleared.....	44
Soil Vent pipes and plumbing repairs.....	13
W.C.'s cleansed and repaired.....	37
Cesspools emptied.....	1
Septic tanks repaired.....	1

(b) Miscellaneous

Roofs repaired.....	15
Chimneys repaired.....	7
Windows repaired or renewed.....	11
Doors repaired.....	7
Floors repaired.....	13

T A B L E 2
(Continued)

Damp walls remedied.....	31
Rooms redecorated.....	10
Staircases repaired or Hand rails provided.....	9
Dustbins provided.....	31
Nuisance - Accumulation of refuse.....	7
Nuisance - Rabbits and pigeons.....	2
Nuisance - Pig Sties.....	4
Food Vehicles.....	4
Shops Defects Remedied.....	65

SAMPLES AND SPECIMENS TAKEN

Ice Cream.....	153
Drinking Water.....	27
Swimming Baths.....	48
Paddling Pools.....	39
Cesspools.....	35
Milk.....	40
School Milk.....	19

T A B L E 3.

During the year complaints were received as detailed below:-

Rats and Mice.....	395
Food	49
Defective dustbin, or absence of	52
Smells.....	35
Choked Drains.....	43
Defective Roof.....	6
General defects.....	6
Dampness.....	7
Insanitary Conditions.....	10
Fleas and Bugs.....	11
Accumulation of Refuse.....	15
Stream pollution.....	5
Nuisance from smoke or fumes.....	10
Nuisance from noise.....	15
Nuisance from animals, birds adders.....	15
Nuisance from insects and wasps.....	36
Nuisance from cockroaches.....	3
Nuisance from over crowding.....	-
Miscellaneous.....	8
Defective windows.....	2

NUMBER OF NOTICES SERVED

Table 4 shows the action taken to secure the abatement of nuisances and the removal of conditions prejudicial to health.

T.A.B.L.E 4.

NOTICES	OUTSTANDING 31. 12, 67.	NUMBER SERVED	COMPLIED WITH	WORK DONE BY L.A. IN DEFAULT	OUTSTANDING 31. 12. 68.
Informal	60	178	196	-	42
Statutory	2	2	4	-	-
TOTAL	62	180	200	-	42

SUMMARY OF STATUTORY NOTICES SERVED:-

Section 93, Public Health Act, 1936 2

FACTORIES ACT, 1937 to 1959

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

IN RESPECT OF THE YEAR 1968 FOR

THE BOROUGH OF CHRISTCHURCH IN THE COUNTY OF SOUTHAMPTON

Prescribed particulars on the administration of the
Factories Act, 1957.

PART I of the ACT

1. INSPECTIONS for the purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors).

PREMISES:	No. on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers prosecuted
(1) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4, and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	6.	1.	-	-
(2) Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	104.	111.	-	-
(3) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	-	-	-	-
TOTAL:	110	112	-	-

2.

CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND

PARTICULARS	No. of cases in which defects were found				No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted.
	Found	Remedied	Referred:		
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	-	-	-	1	-
Overcrowding (S.2)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	-	-	-	1	-
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient	-	1	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	7	6	-	3	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL:	7	7	-	5	-

PART VIII OF THE ACT

OUTWORK.

(Sections 110 and 111)

NATURE OF WORK	Section 110				Section 111		
	No. of out- workers in August list required by Section 110 (1) (C)	No. of default in sending lists to the Council	No. of cases for failure to supply the lists	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply the lists	No. of instances of work in un- wholesome premises	Notices Served	Prosec- utions
Wearing Apparel	4	-	-	-	-	-	-
Millinery	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Plastics -							
Fancy Goods	40	-	-	-	-	-	-
Church Furnishings	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL:	46	-	-	-	-	-	-

